

Message Text

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20

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 ORM-02 DHA-02 OMB-01 COME-00 /085 W

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R 010601Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6312

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT SF

SUBJ: KRUGER COMMENTS ON RELEASE OF DETAINEES

1. LEAD ARTICLE IN NOVEMBER 30 "CITIZEN" REPORTED PLEDGE BY SAG MINISTER OF JUSTICE JIMMY KRUGER THAT ALL 123 DETAINEES HELD UNDER SECTION 10 OF THE INTERNAL SECURITY ACT WOULD BE RELEASED AS SOON AS TOWNSHIP UNREST HAS COME TO AN END. KRUGER EXPLAINED THAT THE RATIONALE BEHIND THE DETENTIONS WAS TO SEPARATE CERTAIN PEOPLE FROM AN AREA OF UNREST. THEREFORE, WHEN THE UNREST ENDS, THERE WOULD BE NO REASON TO HOLD THEM. IN KRUGER'S WORDS, "IT IS NOW OVER TO THE BLACK POWER PEOPLE. THE SOONER THEY DECIDE TO STOP ALTOGETHER THE SOONER I CAN CONSIDER RELEASING THESE PEOPLE." HE ADDED THAT "SECTION 10 OF COURSE IS PART OF THE GENERAL PROCLAMATION AND APPLIES UNTIL DECEMBER 31."

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2. IN RESPONSE TO AN INQUIRY ABOUT THE OTHER DETAINEES,

KRUGER SAID THOSE PEOPLE HELD UNDER SECTION 6 OF THE
TERRORIST ACT WOULD BE RELEASED "ONCE THEY HAVE TOLD US
WHAT THEY KNOW ABOUT THE UNREST OR CHARGING THEM."

3. COMMENT: KRUGER STATEMENT

CREATES IMPRESSION THAT SAG SECURITY ACT DETAINEES ARE
HOSTAGES WHOSE FUTURE DEPENDS ON "BLACK POWER PEOPLE."
THIS MAY RESULT IN INCREASED TENSION BETWEEN "BLACK POWER
PEOPLE" AND MORE CONSERVATIVE ELEMENTS OF BLACK COMMUNITY
ALSO WORRIED ABOUT DETAINED RELATIVES AND FRIENDS.
BOWDLER

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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To: STATE
Type: TE
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